

Radio and Television

Image of CIA Spy Goes Up in Smoke

By Lawrence Laurent

SPIES, AS ANY television fan will tell you, are handsome young men and women. They run around in enemy countries, wearing disguises and stealing the most vital kind of state secrets. They fight, often with their fists, sometimes with guns and knives and there is always a strikingly attractive member of the opposite sex close at hand.



The portrait, it would seem after looking at the CBS Reports on "The Hot and Cold Wars of Allen Dulles" is about as realistic as the notion that Mata Hari could decipher the formula for nuclear fusion.

To one who watched the close study of the apparently serene, highly self-contained former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the most obvious need for espionage is a set of matches. Dulles had have lighted his pipe 50 times during his one-hour conversation with reporter Eric Sevareid. There were times when one might have guessed that the title of the program, really, was "The Hot and Cold Wars of Allen Dulles."

TO A TELEVISION ad-

dict, Dulles provided the discomfiting news that "not much information" is gotten in the stereotyped, thrilling way. Sevareid asked: "Have you ever committed any act of violence in your whole life?" Dulles struck a match, puffed twice and responded with a flat, matter-of-fact "No."

He declined to answer several questions about the Cuban invasion and for an evaluation of the U-2 "spy flights" over the Soviet Union, he quoted the Secretary of Defense's testimony to a Senate Committee.

Dulles was most forceful when he discussed his own attitude toward U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers. Dulles said he had never shared the public or press criticism of Powers' behavior after capture by the Russians.

Dulles said: "I think, on the whole, he handled himself (long pause) — uhh — properly."

Powers is an aviator and a navigator, Dulles continued. "To expect to make of him a fine espionage agent was just not possible."

THE FORMER CIA chief reacted strongly to the suggestion that nobody checks on the activities of the CIA. Dulles said a House Appropriations Subcommittee had gone over CIA budgets "and we ex-

plain every item." He added that Rep.

I AM TOLD by those who are expert in such matters that Dulles actually revealed nothing on television that is not already known to those who study the CIA.

The value of this interview, then, was to furnish a portrait of the philosophy and the career of a man who has led a fascinating life. It was the picture of a man of obvious courage and strength and one who had some rather good advice about the internal menace of Communism. He said that the American people should "study Communism, and understand it." Study, he added would show that our free system is "more efficient and more effective" than Communism. Finally, he said, we "should rally together to defend our positions."

Sevareid summarized the advice this way: "Be informed. Believe in your country and, as the late Elmer Davis put it, 'Don't let them scare you.'"

Dulles signed off the hour with the words: "I'd

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